

## Larry Boy and the Fib from Outer Space

While Junior Asparagus is playing with his friend, Laura, he breaks his father's limited edition' collector's bowling plate. In the meantime, a little outer-space creature named Fib shows up. He suggests that Junior not tell the truth about the broken plate. Fearful of his father's reaction, Junior tries Fib's suggestion to tell just a "little fib," since a little fib couldn't hurt anybody, and telling one can make him feel "free"!

But to cover up for the first lie, Junior has to tell more and more lies until he is trapped by Fib who grows, with each lie, into a huge monster.

Larry Boy, with all the modern technology of Bumbleburg, is called to try to save Junior with the help of Professor Alfred. As he approaches the monster in the Larrymobile all hopes are raised, only to discover that the monster is a lie, and even Larry Boy can do nothing to save young Junior.

Junior thinks a lie will set him free, but learns that the only way to be free is by **telling the truth!** He learns that facing his parents is a lot better than getting caught in a lie.

### THEME:

A fib can grow into a big lie that can trap a person. The only relief is "telling the truth," which can set you free!

### QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

1. What was the problem that brought Fib to Bumbleburg? [*Junior's accidental breaking of the commemorative bowling plate.*]
2. Why do you think Junior told the first fib? [*He was afraid of getting into trouble with his father.*]
3. How did Fib make Junior think telling a "story" was okay? [*Because people do it all the time and it can't hurt anybody.*]
4. Why do most people tell fibs? [*Because they do not want to accept the blame for their actions. They think it can't hurt!*]
5. On whom did Junior put the blame for the broken plate?
  - a. Laura—and who confronted him about that lie? [*'Lil Pea and Percy*]
  - b. Laura's brother, Lenny [*Lenny and Laura both confronted him.*]
  - c. Space aliens! (He became more and more unbelievable as the lies and blames progressed.)

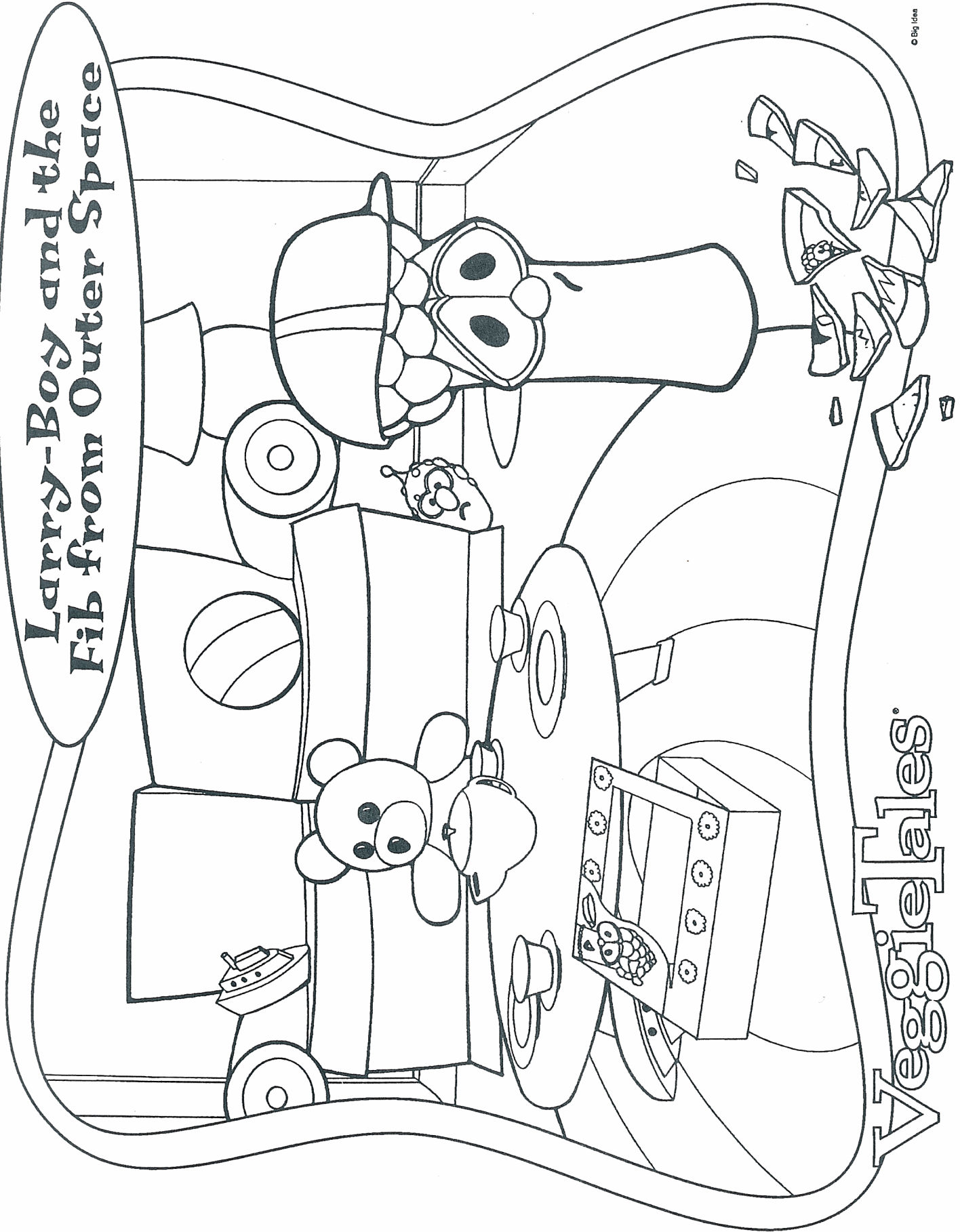
6. What often happens after one lie is told? [*Another lie is told to cover up the first one.*]
7. How do you feel when you lie? How did Junior feel? [*Bad, because he had accused his friends and knew they did not break the plate.*]
8. Why did Fib grow each time Junior told a story? [*Because lies grow with each telling and each 'cover up.'*]
9. Why couldn't Larry Boy save Junior? [*Because the only thing that could save him was telling the truth.*]
10. How can the truth "Set you Free?" [*You don't have to remember the lies you told and keep trying to cover up each one.*]
11. How can a Fib hurt others? [*If it's blamed on them, people might believe it and their reputation would be damaged.*]
12. How did Junior free himself of Fib? [*He told the truth.*]
13. How can you be trapped in a big lie? [*When you have told so many you have a hard time continuing to cover them.*]
14. If you tell you have lied, does it mean you won't be punished? [*No. There may still be consequences for having told the lie.*]

### SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES:

1. Draw a "Fib Monster." Write the word *fib* (or lie) to outline it. Repeat until outlined.
2. Using play dough or clay, make your own "monster" and let it stand for a lie. What might the lie be? Let the monster tell what the lie is in his own voice. Squash the monster and tell how you can squash the lie monster. [*By telling the truth.*]
3. Ask yourself when tempted to lie:
  - a. Is this going to help me or others? Or is this going to hurt me or others? If it doesn't **help**, don't do it!
  - b. Can you think of another story where a lie kept growing and caused a problem? [*Pinocchio*] How did you know he was lying? [*His nose kept growing, just like a lie does.*]
4. When you look for a friend what things do you especially look for? [*Caring, keeps secrets, etc., honesty or being trustworthy*]
5. If you have told a lie and blamed someone else, make the truth known to those who believed the lie. How will you feel?

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